

Message Text

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42

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TO AMEMBASSY NASSAU PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON

SUBJ: DIPLOMATIC CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL WILL -

WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 16-26, 1973

1. PRIOR TO INDEPENDENCE OF BAHAMAS, DEPARTMENT REQUESTED ALL AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS TO INVITE HOST GOVERNMENTS TO ATTEND CAPTIONED CONFERENCE. PURPOSE OF CONFERENCE IS TO CONSIDER A DRAFT CONVENTION ON A UNIFORM LAW ON THE FORM OF INTERNATIONAL WILLS. BASIC IDEA IS THAT COUNTRIES WOULD AGREE THAT IF TESTATOR DRAWS UP WILL IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROVISIONS OF UNIFORM LAW, WILL WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE AS RESPECTS FORM IN ALL COUNTRIES THAT BECOME PARTIES TO CONVENTION. THIS WOULD PERMIT TESTATOR WHO OWNS PROPERTY IN MORE THAN ONE COUNTRY TO AVOID NECESSITY OF PREPARING MULTIPLE WILLS TO MEET DIFFERENT FORMALITIES IN EACH COUNTRY AND WOULD MARKEDLY REDUCE COSTS OF ESTABLISHING VALIDITY OF WILL IN DIFFERENT JURISDICTIONS.

2. IN VIEW OF SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF AMERICANS OWNING PROPERTY IN BAHAMAS, DEPARTMENT ATTACHES PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE TO PARTICIPATION GOVERNMENT OF BAHAMAS IN CONFERENCE. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S
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CONVEYING INVITATION TO APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS IN HOST

GOVERNMENT, EXPLAINING POINTS MADE IN PRECEDING PARAGRAPH,
AND URGING PARTICIPATION IN CONFERENCE. TEXT OF DRAFT
CONVENTION AND ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION BEING AIRPOUCHED.
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